



RESPONSIBLE CRUISING IN ALASKA

TO: CBJ Manager, Assembly Members

FR: Chip Thoma, President, RCA

RE: FY13 Marine Passenger Fee (MPF) Recommendations

DATE: December 29, 2011

Per the request by the Manager to submit MPF funding recommendations by 12/31/11, here are RCA comments for the CBJ budget of FY13:

FUNDING FOR PROJECT 16B - Cruise Ship Dock Replacement Project

This project is the top priority for use of local and state marine passenger fees (MPF) coming to Juneau. Future cruise ships arriving in Juneau will be larger, requiring strong, concrete docks and piers that serve the industry, passenger safety and public access. The Alaska Legislature has made numerous infrastructure grants to the 16B project, estimated to cost over \$60 million dollars. **All available local and state MP Fees should be dedicated to the 16B project until completed.**

FUNDING FOR SEAWALK - Marine Park Segment

The seawalk section completed between the tram and Franklin Dock is a commendable start to this worthy project. Access by the public to the waterfront is the key attribute of the Juneau Waterfront Plan. **In conjunction with 16B, a seawalk should be built through a re-constructed Marine Park and around Merchant's Wharf, as planned.**

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ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PREVIOUS FUNDING - Franklin and AJ Docks

The CBJ has funded a variety of capital, operational and maintenance requests for two private cruise docks; the Franklin and AJ. In FY12, over \$1.1 million was allocated for 13 capital projects, ranging from cathodic protection, security gates, canvas covers to a grey water hookup. **These capital projects on private property must have full documentation of their costs and completion, with receipts. Funds not expended should revert to the CBJ after 24 months.**

FUTURE FUNDING REQUESTS - Franklin and AJ Docks

Reading the submissions to CBJ for FY12, both private docks have numerous and expensive requests for future capital projects. Proposed projects include a security terminal, electrical power connection, covered bus areas, and a new float construction.

However, large capital projects on private property should be financed by the dock and ship owners, not CBJ fee and funding sources. These are permanent assets being constructed with public monies. **Marine passenger fees collected by the state of Alaska and CBJ should finance public cruise projects and infrastructure, not for private entities.**